

CLAIMS

I claim:

- 1 1. A tablecloth convertible to a garbage bag, comprising:
 - 2 a flexible panel having an expandable peripheral edge, said
 - 3 panel being bunched along its peripheral edge and having an
 - 4 elastic band attached to and surrounding said peripheral edge to
 - 5 form said expandable edge, said elastic band being of such
 - 6 length that said flexible panel forms a tablecloth, said elastic
 - 7 band being expandable such that said flexible panel is
 - 8 stretchable over a table top, said flexible panel closing over
 - 9 said table top upon said elastic band returning to its retracted
 - 10 position; and
- 11 at least two spaced handles attached to said flexible panel
- 12 proximate said expandable edge;
- 13 whereby, upon said tablecloth having trash and garbage
- 14 remaining from a meal thereon, said flexible panel converts to a
- 15 garbage bag by stretching its expandable over said table to and
- 16 enclosing said trash and garbage, said garbage bag being carried
- 17 by said handles to a place for disposal.

1 2. The convertible tablecloth of claim 1, wherein said
2 flexible panel is circular in shape.

1 3. The convertible tablecloth of claim 2, wherein there
2 are two handles located at opposed positions on said flexible
3 panel and said handles are attached to said expandable edge.

1 4. The convertible tablecloth of claim 3, wherein said
2 flexible panel is two-ply polymeric sheet.

1 5. The convertible tablecloth of claim 4, said polymeric
2 sheet being polyvinyl or polyester sheet.

1 6. The convertible tablecloth of claim 5, each said handle
2 comprising a polymeric strip having attachment end portions and
3 a grasping portion, said attachment end portions being attached
4 to said expandable edge.

1 7. The convertible tablecloth of claim 6, wherein said
2 attachment end portion of said polymeric strip is attached to
3 said expandable edge by heat-welding.